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COMMITTEE ON THE PEACEFUL
USES OF OUTER SPACE

INFORMATION FURNISHED IN CONFORMITY WITH THE CONVENTION ON REGISTRATION OF OBJECTS LAUNCHED INTO OUTER SPACE

Note verbale dated 24 April 1998 from the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations (Vienna) addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations (Vienna) presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and, in accordance with article IV, paragraph 1, of the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space,* has the honour to transmit information concerning MUSES-B/VSOP (HALCA), JCSAT-4, BSAT-1a, SUPERBIRD-C, Engineering Test Satellite VII (ETS-VII) as well as JCSAT-5 (see annex).

*General Assembly resolution 3235 (XXIX), annex, of 12 November 1974.

Annex

REGISTRATION DATA FOR JAPANESE SPACE LAUNCHES*

Name of satellite:	**MUSES-B/VSOP (HALCA)**
Designation:	1997-005A
Name of launching State:	Japan
Date of launch:	12 February 1997 (04:50 GMT)
Location of launch:	Japan (Kagoshima Space Center)
Basic orbital parameters:	
(1) Nodal period:	6 hours 20 minutes
(2) Inclination:	31.3 degrees
(3) Apogee:	21,400 kilometers
(4) Perigee:	560 kilometers
General function of space object:	Technical experiment including large antenna deployment and radio astronomy using space VLBI
Launch vehicle:	M-V (first)
Launching organization:	Institute of Space and Astronautical Science, Ministry of Education, Science, Sports and Culture

*The registration data are reproduced in the form in which they were received.

Name of satellite:	**JCSAT-4**
Designation:	1997-007A
Name of launching State:	Japan (United States of America)
Date of launch:	17 February 1997 (01:42 GMT)
Location of launch:	United States, Florida (Cape Canaveral)
Basic orbital parameters	
(1) Nodal period:	1,436 minutes
(2) Inclination:	0.026 degrees
(3) Apogee:	35,794 kilometers
(4) Perigee:	35,780 kilometers
General function of space object:	Domestic and international communication Domestic and international broadcasting
Launch vehicle:	ATLAS II AS
Launching organization:	Lockheed Martin Commercial Launch Services Inc.

Name of satellite:	**BSAT-1a**
Designation:	1997-016B
Name of launching State:	Japan (France)
Date of launch:	16 April 1997 (23:08 GMT)
Location of launch:	French Guiana (Kourou)
Basic orbital parameters	
(1) Nodal period:	1,436 minutes
(2) Inclination:	0.093 degrees
(3) Apogee:	35,838 kilometers
(4) Perigee:	35,743 kilometers
General function of space object:	Domestic direct broadcasting
Launch vehicle:	Ariane 44LP
Launching organization:	Arianespace

Name of satellite:	**SUPERBIRD-C**
Designation:	1997-036A
Name of launching State:	Japan (United States of America)
Date of launch:	28 July 1997 (01:15 GMT)
Location of launch:	United States, Florida (Cape Canaveral)
Basic orbital parameters	
(1) Nodal period:	1,436.09 minutes
(2) Inclination:	0.02655 degrees
(3) Apogee:	35,791.92 kilometers
(4) Perigee:	35,780.90 kilometers
General function of space object:	Domestic and international communications
Launch vehicle:	ATLAS II AS
Launching organization:	Lockheed Martin Commercial Launch Services Inc.

Name of satellite:	Engineering Test Satellite-VII (ETS-VII) [Kiku VII (Orihime - Hikoboshi)]
Designation:	1997-074B
Name of launching State:	Japan
Date of launch:	27 November 1997 (21:27 GMT)
Location of launch:	Japan (Tanegashima Space Center)

Basic orbital parameters

		(As of 28 November)	(As of 20 December)
(1)	Nodal period:	94 minutes	95 minutes
(2)	Inclination:	34.9 degrees	34.9 degrees
(3)	Apogee:	551.1 kilometers	550.3 kilometers
(4)	Perigee:	376.9 kilometers	546.6 kilometers

General function of space object: ETS-VII consists of two satellites named "Chaser" (Hikoboshi) and "Target" (Orihime). After launching, the Chaser will release the Target satellite on orbit, and then the Chaser satellite will conduct rendezvous docking experiments with the Target satellite automatically and by remote pilot. It will also conduct the space robotic experiments by using the robot arm, orbital replacement unit etc. installed on the Chaser satellite. These experiments will be conducted via data relay satellites to study integrated on-orbit capability.

Launch vehicle:	H-II Rocket Flight 6F (H-II, 6F)
Launching organization:	National Space Development Agency of Japan (NASDA)

Name of satellite:	**JCSAT-5**
Designation:	1997-075A
Name of launching State:	Japan (France)
Date of launch:	2 December 1997 (22:52 GMT)
Location of launch:	French Guiana (Kourou)
Basic orbital parameters:	(As of 15 January 1998 (JST))
(1) Nodal period:	1,436 minutes
(2) Inclination:	0.013 degrees
(3) Apogee:	35,792 kilometers
(4) Perigee:	35,783 kilometers
General function of space object:	Domestic and international communications
Launch vehicle:	Ariane 44P
Launching organization:	Arianespace